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Message Text

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67
ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COA-02 PM-07 H-03 DODE-00 L-03 SS-20

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DLOS-06 SCS-03 SCA-01

PRS-01 DOTE-00 CG-00 NSC-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 /085 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/EP:SMPRINGLE/ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN
APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

H:KBJENKINS (SUBS)
S/FW:SBLOW (SUBS)
PM/SAS:CAPT.COCHRANE (SUBS)
L/OA:MBWEST (SUBS)
L:MFELDMAN (SUBS)
S/S:WHLUERS
---------- 113474
O R 190050Z APR 74 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY QUITO NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USCINCSO/COMUSNAVSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079712

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, EC, US
SUBJ: ASSISTANCE TO ECUADOREAN NAVY
REF: STATE 75380

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS

1. MEETING WITH TUNA INDUSTRY TOOK PLACE APRIL 17.
INDUSTRY EXPRESSED ADAMANT OPPOSITION TO OFFER OF ANY
SHIPS TO ECUADOREAN NAVY. WE EXPECT STRONG SUPPORT FOR
THAT POSITION FROM CONGRESSMEN SYMPATHETIC TO TUNA INDUSTRY.
I AM CONVINCED THAT IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO OFFER SHIPS
TO THE ECUADOREAN NAVY BUT I CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT
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THERE BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

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OF OUR DECISION AND EXPLAIN THE REASONS FOR IT BEFORE OFFER IS MADE TO GOE. WE WILL UNDERTAKE THAT PROCESS UPON CONGRESS'S RETURN FROM EASTER RECESS NEXT WEEK AND EXPECT TO COMPLETE IT BY LATE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24.

2. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE INFORM ADMIRAL VASQUEZ AND, AT YOUR DISCRETION, PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ, THAT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE ECUADOREAN NAVY'S NEEDS AND THAT YOU DO EXPECT TO BE IN A POSITION TO GIVE A RESPONSE WHICH YOU BELIEVE THE GOE WILL CONSIDER POSITIVE WITHIN APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK.

3. YOU MAY WISH TO EXPLAIN THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CONGRESS ARE ESSENTIAL AT THIS POINT IF THE CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS THAT WE BOTH DESIRE IS TO CONTINUE. CONGRESSIONAL UNDERSTANDING OF THIS PROCESS AND OF THE EXCELLENT PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES IS IMPERATIVE. I WANT YOU TO LEAVE THE GOE IN NO DOUBT THAT THIS DELAY ARISES SOLELY FROM THAT FACT AND IN NO WAY SHOULD BE TAKEN AS ANY WEAKENING IN THE RESOLVE OF THE USG TO BUILD A RELATIONSHIP WITH ECUADOR OF MUTUAL COMPREHENSION AND COOPERATION. KISSINGER

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